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Serial No. 09/842,837  
Art Unit: 2827

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

VIANNA, Rudy et al.

Serial No. 09/842,837

Art Unit: 2877

Filed: April 27, 2001

Examiner: Tuan Dinh

For: COMMUNICATION DEVICE  
PLANE HAVING A HIGH-SPEED BUS

Atty Docket: 3650-013US

FAX NUMBER: 571-273-1929  
TO THE ATTENTION OF: Examiner Tuan T. Dinh

November 16, 2004

Dear Sir:

The following proposed amended claims are for the Examiner's consideration and reflect the verbally agreed claim changes:

1. (canceled).
2. (currently amended). The plane according to claim 4, wherein, when said first and second modules are connected thereto, the layout of the modules on said device plane is substantially H-shaped.
3. (currently amended). The plane according to claim 4, wherein said plurality of second connectors is arranged in such a manner as to allow for maximum module densities.
4. (currently amended). The plane according to claim 4 A communication device plane having a high speed bus for interconnecting a plurality of modules, said device plane comprising:  
a plurality of first connectors for receiving a plurality of first modules, said plurality of first connectors being arranged in parallel with each other and longitudinally with respect to

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the length of said device plane, and being mounted to said communication device plane substantially centrally thereon, each of said first connectors extending so as to substantially cover the length of said device plane;

a plurality of second connectors for receiving a plurality of second modules, said second connectors being substantially parallel to said first connectors and being mounted to said communication device plane in groups on both sides of said plurality of first connectors such that two of said groups on each side may be disposed longitudinally with respect to each other,

wherein said plurality of second connectors is disposed in a staggered arrangement on the communication device plane, allowing for maximum densities of alternating modules in a front row and a back row.

5. (currently amended). ~~The plane according to claim 4~~ A communication device plane having a high speed bus for interconnecting a plurality of modules, said device plane comprising:

a plurality of first connectors for receiving a plurality of first modules, said plurality of first connectors being arranged in parallel with each other and longitudinally with respect to the length of said device plane, and being mounted to said communication device plane substantially centrally thereon, each of said first connectors extending so as to substantially cover the length of said device plane;

a plurality of second connectors for receiving a plurality of second modules, said second connectors being substantially parallel to said first connectors and being mounted to said communication device plane in groups on both sides of said plurality of first connectors such that two of said groups on each side may be disposed longitudinally with respect to each other,

wherein the length of the device plane is less than twice the length of one of said second modules

6. (currently amended). The plane according to claim 4 further comprising:

a plurality of third connectors for receiving a plurality of third modules, said plurality of third connectors being arranged such that they are co-linear with said first modules.

7. (previously presented). The plane according to claim 6 wherein said third connectors

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are disposed on either side of said first modules.

8. (previously presented). The plane according to claim 6 wherein the length of the device plane is slightly longer than the length of one of said first modules, which are disposed along the length of the device.

9. (canceled).

10. (canceled).

11. (canceled).

12. (canceled).

13. (currently amended). ~~The plane according to claim 1~~ A communication device plane having a high speed bus for interconnecting a plurality of modules, said device plane comprising:

a plurality of first connectors for receiving a plurality of first modules, said plurality of first connectors being arranged in parallel with each other and longitudinally with respect to the length of said device plane, and being mounted to said communication device plane substantially centrally thereon, each of said first connectors extending so as to substantially cover the length of said device plane;

a plurality of second connectors for receiving a plurality of second modules, said second connectors being substantially parallel to said first connectors and being mounted to said communication device plane in groups on both sides of said plurality of first connectors such that two of said groups on each side may be disposed longitudinally with respect to each other.

wherein said plane is a double sided midplane.

14. (canceled).

15. (previously presented). The plane according to claim 6 wherein said plane is a double sided midplane.

Informal